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IS IT WORTH?



P.3

WORTH IT

TO GET A
\$250
FINE
OR EVEN

JAIL TIME

FOR
USING
A FAKE

ID

DOWN
TOWN



TO GET
SKIN
CANCER
FOR DARKER
TAN



NEWS

The return
of the flood
P.2

SCENE

Sit back, relax
and inhale
P.9

SPORTS

Swim team
makes big splash
P.15

by the students, for the students of cwu

WRECK TO



YOUR
CAR
OVER A
TEXT
MESSAGE

THE

SERVER

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KATHARINE LOTZE/ OBSERVER

SANDBAGS BY WENDELL Sandbags block Dean Nicholson Boulevard between the music building and Wendell Hill Hall on May 16.

Wash, rinse, repeat

Ellensburg floods for the second time in as many quarters



KATHARINE LOTZE/ OBSERVER

CENTRAL TRANSIT The Central Transit van drives down a flooded Alder Street in front of the Music Building on May 16. The floods reached depths that vehicles smaller in size had difficulty fording. There are still affected areas from the excessive amounts of water on the roadway.

DO THE REWARDS OUTWEIGH THE RISKS?

Cracking down on fake IDs

BY QUINN EDDY
Staff Reporter

In the three-month span between January and March, Ellensburg’s Club 301 has collected 35 ID’s from minors attempting to get in. Rather than using counterfeit IDs, most are using “lost” or “borrowed” Washington state drivers licenses from friends of age.

According to Washington Sstate Liquor Control Board Officer Matt Murphy, this is the most IDs ever confiscated in Ellensburg within such a short period of time.

“Its good for us as a bar to know we have set the standard so high,” said Mel Lafleur, head bouncer at 301.

When checking an ID, Starlight bartender John Arney follows a circular order of operations.

“The first thing I check is the expiration date. If its expired I can’t take it,” Arney said. “From there I look at the picture. If the Washington state seal isn’t halfway over the picture I know right away it is a fake. Then I’ll shine a black light on the license to see if the Washington state seal appears. Finally, I’ll check the date.”

If a bouncer suspects a fake, their

main move is to ask the patron to verify the ID with the police.

“Usually, if it is fake they will leave when we mention the cops,” Lafleur said.

When the liquor control board comes to Ellensburg they look for public safety violations. These include sale or service to minors, over-service to an intoxicated person and disorderly conduct, such as bar fights or employees drinking on the job.

Additionally, liquor control board officers check to make sure there is proper signage and that all bartenders are properly licensed.

“All bars in Ellensburg have been making a very strong effort to prevent minors from consuming alcohol,” Murphy said.

For the first public safety violation a bar can face a \$500 penalty or a five day suspension of its liquor license.

The second violation within two years could yield a mandatory seven day suspension.

The third in two years carries with it a 30-day suspension and on the fourth a request is made for the cancellation of the establishment’s liquor license.

Every bar has the option to appeal through an informal settlement conference or a formal administrative hearing.

Getting caught using a fake ID is a

misdemeanor offense. The offending minor would be required to see a judge and could face a minimum fine of \$250 or a maximum fine of \$1000.

If someone of age is caught giving a minor a drink it could lead to a \$5000 penalty and up to a year in jail.

Central’s Campus-Community Coalition in collaboration with the liquor control board, the Ellensburg police department and Ellensburg’s downtown association has formed the Hospitality Resource Alliance.

The goal of this group is to offer training and help in developing a bar’s policy for properly following the law.

“Everybody wants the downtown area to be a vibrant and lively place but also safe and legal,” said Lynne Harrison coordinator for the campus-community coalition. “Through the Hospitality Resource Alliance we can help ensure that the laws are followed.”

The Hospitality Resource Alliance holds an over-service and ID check class



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY KATHARINE LOTZE

once every six months.

“It was a pretty good class,” Arney said. “When it comes to checking the IDs there were a lot of specific details about the orientation of the ID that I didn’t know.”

An incentive for bars to participate in these activities comes from an amendment of Washington state’s alcohol law.

Harrison said, “If a business had a policy signed by employees and had employees participate in training on an annual basis their fines or penalties will be reduced because they have demonstrated they are trying to do the right thing.”

Texting carries many risks

BY JEANETTE GENSON
Staff Reporter

Garrett Talcott knows all too well the consequences that come with not paying attention to the world around him while he texts.

The Central student took a dangerous tumble down two flights of stairs in Black Hall earlier this quarter.

“I would never plan or want something like this to happen to myself, or anyone else,” Talcott said when recounting the event. “But unfortunately some things happen that are out of our control.”

Talcott was rushing from one class to another when he was answering a text, talking with a friend, and about to quickly

walk down the stairs.

Because of the fall, he had to have a cast on his ankle for over a week, and had to use crutches to prevent further injury to his ankle.

Talcott is a member of what some experts call the “echo generation,” or those born between the years of 1977 to 1994. They have grown up with technology at the tips of their fingers, including internet and cell phones that are accessible at any time of the day. Yet, accessibility

“I still multitask, but I am more conscious of my actions and movements, especially on treacherous terrain.”
-GARETT TALCOTT
CWU Student

comes with downsides.

Texting is one of the most dangerous things that can be done behind the wheel of a car, and it is now illegal.

According to the National Safety Council, 28 percent of accidents on the road are caused by distracted drivers texting on their phones.

Another downfall that students face from being glued to that tiny cell phone screen is reprisal from their teachers.

Many teachers have included a warning about cell phone use in their syllabus, but students sometimes find it hard to tell which teachers actually take the warning seriously.

Some teachers will take cell phone use in the class room extremely seriously and punish students with a verbal warning, a request that students leave class, and some even dock points when students can be seen using their cell phones.

Other teachers just ignore the distraction and carry on with their lecture.

Talcott said he must text while completing other tasks throughout the day to “reach my true potential and shine.”

Talcott believes that multitasking is still very important, even though he knows that the dangers can sometimes outweigh the benefits.

When asked if he has continued his habits, Talcott said he will from now on be aware of his surroundings at all times, and he has decided that some texts can wait.

“I still multitask,” he said, “but I am more conscious of my actions and movements, especially on treacherous terrain.”

Sun exposure can lead to skin cancer

BY PRESTON PRENDERGAST
Staff Reporter

Ellensburg has entered the spring season – a time when students spend more time outdoors and soak up their share of vitamin D from the sun. Yet, a good tan comes with risks.

“This time of year most of us have the desire to get outside and enjoy the spring weather,” said Vanessa Harbour, assistant professor of physical education and school and public health. “However, overexposure to the sun is a health hazard, and can lead to cancer, premature aging of the skin, and even eye damage. We need to be sensible about avoiding prolonged exposure to the sun, and

that means wearing sunscreen on a regular basis.”

The sun gives off many spectrums of light, some of which are harmful.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 65 to 90 percent of melanoma is caused by exposure to any of the three types of ultraviolet light: A, B or C.

Ultraviolet A is the most common form of light and only affects the upper layers of the skin. Ultraviolet B and C are more dangerous to the skin, but are often absorbed by the atmosphere that protects our earth.

Recently, these three forms of ultraviolet light have become more common due to greenhouse gases depleting our atmosphere.

Most are aware of the damage that sun can do to your skin. Yet, there are long-term effects of prolonged sun exposure.

“Long-term damage from sun exposure causes sun burns which can lead to melanoma,” said Kristin Karns, a physician at the campus medical clinic. “This damage can occur both by natural sun light and by tanning beds.”

Information provided by the American Cancer Society explains that melanoma looks like an oddly shaped mole. It can be difficult to diagnose, it’s very common for people to have moles on their body that are completely harmless.

The American Cancer Society provides people with the simple “ABCD” rule to help them find signs of melanoma. Asymmetry: if one

half doesn’t match the other. Border irregularity, edges are ragged & blurred. Color: pigmentation is not uniform. Diameter: greater than 6 millimeters. Having moles with one or more of these could be early signs of melanoma.

It seems as though most things that we do can lead to cancer or some sort of ailment. But is it deadly to be in the sun without using protection such as sunscreen?

“I think it does matter if people tan too much,” said Gabriella Wolman, junior psychology major. “People don’t always realize, but some girls are really addicted to tanning and will go multiple times in a day severely risking their health.”

While it is important to get sun, there are dangers that come with prolonged sun exposure.



ALLISON HOWARD/ OBSERVER

16 YEARS OF FARMERS MARKET People peruse an organic booth at the Ellensburg Farmers Market, while others enjoy the sunshine and acoustic music. The market is open every Saturday downtown between Fourth Avenue and Pearl.

Farmers Market Returns

Ellensburg market begins its 16th year

BY SHONTARA ANDERSON
Staff Reporter

The farmers market is back. Last Saturday was its debut for the spring. It is open Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The market runs from May until October because the weather starts to perk up around this time of year. The market is located on Fourth Avenue from Ruby to Pearl.

The Kittitas County Farmers Market Manager Eric Miller said that produce and plants are usually available this time of year. Farmers and crafts salesmen also have the opportunity to see their customers face to face.

According to Miller, the farmers also have a direct market to the customers, resulting in better prices for the customers.

Having the “market downtown brings people downtown and when they are visiting, brings more people into our community,” Miller said.

Miller said the tax dollars brought in by the farmers market are put back into the local economy.

Miller said the farmers market has been going on for 16 years and this is the best location it has had.

Today, the location of the market is in a more central area downtown, and gives customers the opportunity to visit other

downtown businesses as well. This has the potential to increase the flow of foot traffic downtown.

“There are also no weather restrictions for the farmers market; rain, shine and even wind we will be out there every Saturday,” Miller said. “We are very excited we take credit cards and EBT cards this year with a wireless card reader. We can get extra business that way.”

Bambi Miller, Eric’s wife, is a farm manager. The two own the Parke Creek Farm just outside of Ellensburg.

“The people, the customers are my favorite part of the market. You get to know them,” Bambi said. “If [we] didn’t have customers, there would be no farmers market.”

She said she would always be

there, from the beginning to the end of the farmers’ market.

“The market is a family affair,” Bambi said. There are no grouchy people.”

Central public health and pre-nursing alumna Valerie Esplana said, “it made me feel a sense of welcoming, and it was really community based.”

Esplana said she enjoyed walking around seeing all of the different vendors the farmers’ market had to offer.

“I sold all of my fresh produce last week in 20 minutes. That’s never happened to me before,” Bambi said. “You should have gotten here earlier.”

“The people, the customers are my favorite part of the market. You get to know them.”

-BAMBI MILLER
Farm Manager



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BOD Student Elections: Polls close today at 7 p.m.

Results will be posted by midnight Thursday

Here are your 2010- 2011 Candidates



Steven Ross
Presidential
Candidate



Vanessa Vargas
Presidential
Candidate



Toni Ball
E.V.P.
Candidate



Paul Stayback
E.V.P.
Candidate



Pablo Gonzalez
V.P. for Clubs & Organizations
Candidate



Maylin Sevilla
V.P. for Clubs & Organizations
Candidate



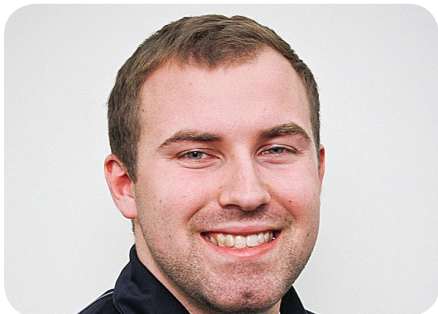
Conrado Cavazos
V.P. for Equity & Community Affairs
Candidate



KJ Stilling
V.P. for Equity & Community Affairs
Candidate



Connor Clemons
V.P. for Student Life & Facilities
Candidate



James Rae
V.P. for Student Life & Facilities
Candidate



Allyson Mundy
V.P. for Academic Affairs
Candidate



Mike Merz
V.P. for Legislative Affairs
Candidate

Candidates respond at final forum

BY NICHOLE WILLIAMSON
Staff Reporter

Q: As BOD president describe how under your leadership you will build a team within the BOD.

A: “It’s not only my leadership skills it’s my leadership experience. I’ve learned each individual office...I know how the position works,” said Steve Ross.

A: “If I’m up there at the office I’m going to make sure that my office is available to you,” said Vanessa Vargas.

Executive V.P.

Q: When looking at the prepared budget what areas to you plan to emphasize?

A: “A large part goes to the insurances for the clubs. I’d really have to sit down once I have the position and educate myself on the budget,” said Toni Ball.

A: “It’s a tricky subject...there will be fee raises. Insurance is a big portion of our budget and there’s nothing we can do about that. The next thing we need to look at is man hours,” said Paul Stayback.

V.P. of Equity & Community Affairs

Q: There have been issues with respect across campus where professors violate student rights... What will you do to stop this?

A: “If I was aware of the actions you describe, which are terrible and should be unacceptable. I would take it upon myself to go after those professors or individuals who committed those actions that are wrong,” said Kyle Stillings.

A: “I’d encourage all students to report all acts immediately. I would give my phone number so they can call me if they need anything... I’ve been a victim of that kind of discrimination and it’s not fun at all,” said Conrado Cavazos.

V.P. of Student Life and Facilities

Q: How would you determine what students needs are most important?

A: “The concerns of the students are also the concerns of the VP...having the ability to find out what you guys want is the best thing,” said James Rae.

V.P. of Clubs and Organizations

Q: What strategies would you use to get more students to join clubs and to motivate clubs to become more involved?

A: “I would make a clubs and organization list of what’s available to the students, I would like to see more student involvement” said Pablo Gonzalez.

A: “Providing the information and publicizing the information by using my resources, my facebook page and the clubs pages...I want to make the accessibility to clubs much easier,” said Maylin Sevilla.

V.P. of Legislative Affairs

Q: How do you plan to work with the administration in the legislative process?

A: “They’re not the enemy, neither is the legislator or the citizens of the state, we have to work together,” said Mike Merz.

V.P. of Academic Affairs

Q: What’s the central for vice president of academic affairs as you see it?

A: “Since I’ve walked in the doors as a freshman here I’ve been involved in academic affairs...I’ve seen how many committees they have to sit on and chair academic senate...all the offices have been separated and I want to be more aware of what the others to work as a team,” said Allyson Mundy.

Momma H shares her ‘queer eye’ with class

Queer Theory and Sexuality class gains popularity in the psychology department



COURTESY OF LUDOVIC BERTRON

BY JEREMY VIMISLIK
Staff Reporter

How often, on the first day of class, do students get to choose the pronoun by which they wish to be addressed? This is just one nuance in the emergence of a new class this quarter on Central’s campus: Psychology 312: Queer Theory and Sexuality.

The unique teaching style of Assistant Psychology Professor Dr. Breyan Haizlip, or Momma H, as referred to by her students, and the taboo subject matter of the course challenges students to think and learn in new ways where they are free to express themselves, understand others and ask questions.

The class is aimed at teaching the students about the theory behind Queer Community as a culture. The term “Queer” refers to anyone identifying as lesbian, gay, transgender, intersex, questioning, or pansexual.

The “Queer culture” encompasses the community of persons that not only have alternative sexual orientation, but also alternative ways of interpreting sex, love, gender, relationship and identity.

The class embraces defining human behavior beyond human labels.

“Teaching students solely about heterosexuality is academically unethical,” Haizlip said.

Haizlip’s teaching style is more of an organized discussion, as opposed to a lecture-based course. Much of this is done through consciousness-raising groups, which is experiential and interactive.

“We leave thinking – making a lot of discoveries. We’ve learned a lot more than Queer Theory, we’ve come to learn a lot about ourselves,” said Sheila Jones, junior, early childhood education major.

Haizlip thinks what makes her unique is her background. She is a young, female, African American professor who came from a very poor working class, and she brings all of that to the classroom.

According to Haizlip, faculty has to be different, to bring their perspective and experience into their instruction.

According to Haizlip, there is 100 percent attendance, sometimes 110 percent, as there are always a few extra students (and faculty) that sit in as guests ... “Cen-

tral wants this class.”

There are some students that are skipping all of their other classes but still attending Queer Theory.

“It’s important to have a class like this because we have so many uneducated and ignorant people who are so set in their ways that they are unable to embrace anything different than what they know,” Jones said.

According to Haizlip, her goal is not to change student’s minds. She’s much more interested in helping them become great thinkers, or “devourers of knowledge.”

Students accomplish this through engaging and reflecting on the material on a personal level.

She wants students to leave the class learning how to ask good questions and having the courage to do so.

“We want students to be informed, not educated. I think as a facilitator of learning, my job is to teach them how to think and ask questions. I let them see me as fallible in the class and make mistakes. We laugh together, we are inquisitive together, we learn together ... I’m comfortable with them doing that,” Haizlip said.

According to Page Whooler, senior, sports and exercise science physiology major, Haizlip is one of the first lecturers that allowed, even welcomed disagreement with certain topics in class.

He feels that his perspective would be welcomed without the feeling that he was infringing on her level of academia.

“I care about students learning because that makes them potentially catalysts for social change in our world,” Haizlip said.

Students considering the class should be warned. Be prepared to be challenged, have a lot of fun, and experience a class that is like no other.

According to Haizlip, 40 percent of her class is not queer identified, so students don’t have to worry about where their views are, there are no criteria to take this course, all they need is a little curiosity and courage ... “they don’t even need to have an open-mind, we’ll work on that.”

S&A votes fee increase

Students will pay about \$85 more per year

BY PETER O’CAIN
News Senior Reporter

The Services and Activities Fee committee voted to increase the fee it charges students by 12 percent. The committee also voted to cut all revenue sources, such as The ‘Burg, by one percent. Twelve percent would equal about \$85 per year for each student.

The changes come in response to the committee’s decision to reject the university’s proposed administration fee, which would have taken about \$850,000 from the committee.

Ultimately, the board of trustees has the final say in whether the committee will be assessed the administration fee; these changes are designed to help the committee absorb the hefty tax if it is administered.

“We’ve decided we need more clarification on the market basket of goods and services,” said ASCWU BOD Executive Vice President James Rae in reference to the different services the administration fee would pay for. “We’re trying to give it the due diligence it deserves on behalf of the students.”

Rae believes there is a philosophical change happening within the committee.

More students are aware of the services provided by the committee and have therefore been able to provide more sup-

plemental funding than years past. “I think we’re setting a good precedent in the amount of supplemental request approvals,” Rae said.

The committee also provided funding to services not traditionally funded by students.

For example, Central decided not to fund a career services position at a West-side center, but because students valued the position so much the committee decided to fund it.

Rae believes that was the first time the committee had funded a service or position that is traditionally funded by the university.

The ‘Burg Manager Chris Hull doesn’t expect the one percent cut in funding to change things too much at The ‘Burg.

“We’ll feel any cut, but a 1 percent cut is much more manageable,” Hull

said. He said he was bracing the station for cuts upwards of 10 percent.

Hull said that no students will lose their jobs because of the cut, but some may see their hours cut.

“We do everything we can to minimize the impact on them,” Hull said.

Hull also said that they would be hiring fewer students next year. He expects to only hire 12 students, as opposed to the 16 that were hired this year. He said The ‘Burg averages 12 or 13 student employees.

“We’ve decided we need more clarification on the market basket of goods and services. We’re trying to give it the due diligence it deserves on behalf of the students.”

-JAMES RAE
BOD E.V.P.

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Music building renamed

BY MADDY SHORTT
Staff Reporter

Central’s music building has recently been renamed after Jerilyn McIntyre, former president of the university from July 2000 to December 2008.

In order to name a building after someone, applicants must go through a strict process. According to Central’s honorary naming form, “the honor is reserved for those who have achieved exceptional distinction in their service to the university and the citizens of Washington, or to those who served CWU in an academic or administrative capacity who have achieved national or international reputation.”

The honorary naming form is the first step in the naming process. It requires an explanation of the reasoning behind the nominee choice. Other form requirements include a brief biography of the nominee and a statement of rationale explaining the distinctive contributions of the nominee to Central.

After this form is completed, it is submitted to the recently formed naming committee.

According to Linda Schactler, director of public affairs, the naming committee has replaced Central’s development and priorities committee.

“There are new guidelines for how we name buildings,” Schactler said.

Schactler led the initiative work in Olympia with McIntyre to receive fund-



ing for the music building.

Schactler said, new guidelines for the naming committee are being worked into a policy that will be presented to the board of trustees in an upcoming meetings.

After a review from the naming committee, the building nomination is forwarded to the president who then makes a determination. If approved, the form is forwarded to the board of trustees for its consideration and final approval.

Jen Gray, director of university advancement, knew McIntyre personally and was the one to suggest that the music building be named after her.

Gray’s honorary naming request form lists a number of McIntyre’s achievements including:

- A strengthened connection with legislative and executive branch officers of the state.
- Commissioning a Central market study and subsequent development of a marketing plan.
- The completion of the university’s first comprehensive gifts campaign to provide funding for student scholarships and faculty initiatives.
- Converting 97 percent of campus classrooms to multi-media, fully wired classrooms.
- An enrollment recovery plan to respond to enrollment and led an enrollment management plan for the residential campus and the university centers based on a state-wide and institutional data about student interest and availability.

The rise of E.M.P.I.R.E Club concludes its first academic year

BY JEANETTE GENSON
Staff Reporter

An array of men and women gathered in the Mary Grupe Center on Friday evening in suits, ties and evening dresses. There was excitement in the air as the E.M.P.I.R.E members stood congratulating each other.

It was an important night for many people, as E.M.P.I.R.E celebrated its first academic year on campus.

“As an organization we’ve grown a lot. Especially I think that we were able to identify with the average student, that we were able to make them retained on campus,” said E.M.P.I.R.E founder Adam Haizlip.

E.M.P.I.R.E, which stands for Extraordinary Men Pursuing Intellectual Readiness through Education, is a club that’s main function is to help young men be more prepared for the challenges that they will face during and after their college career.

Haizlip and Anthony Peterson were advised by Keith Champagne, assistant VP of student affairs, in the beginning stages of brainstorming for E.M.P.I.R.E, and Champagne continues to be their club adviser.

Peterson is an Alumni of Central now, but remains involved with E.M.P.I.R.E and acts as their community adviser. Andre Dickerson is the president of E.M.P.I.R.E but will be graduating at the end of this quarter.

It was not only a celebration for the club’s success in their first year, but also an award ceremony. With every award that was handed out, Haizlip expressed his love and appreciation for his fellow

E.M.P.I.R.E brothers.

Awards that were presented included: Man of the Year, received by Haizlip, and Scholar of the Year, which went to Dickerson for ending the year with the highest GPA in the club.

Octavio Garcia Ruiz, who was affectionately called the “most enthusiastic freshman Haizlip had ever seen,” was given the Social Justice Award for his work in the community. Ruiz especially worked with those who were affected by the raids in January.

Commitment to Excellence awards were given to four club members. Canrado Cavazos who recieved the award, is also running for the BOD position of Vice President for Equity and Community Service. The other students that acquired this award were Daniel Gonzales, Reggie Westmoreland and Reece Christopher.

The Woman of the Year award was presented to Teresa Francis, assistant professor, Bobby Cummings, professor, and Breyan Haizlip, assistant professor were awarded for their support of E.M.P.I.R.E.

Champagne spoke for the organization during the ceremony. He walked away with the administrator of the year award.

All of these men spoke of how E.M.P.I.R.E has changed their lives. It is an organization dedicated to helping those from all backgrounds, and E.M.P.I.R.E has made an extreme impact in the short 10 months that it has been an academic organization.

“E.M.P.I.R.E. is a place for men to come with whatever issues that they have, and develop the skills to be identified with their cultural history,” Haizlip said.

State audit finds two CWU financial miscues

Audit finds \$6.64m of past-due accounts, \$145k in wrongly allocated tuition waivers

BY ANTHONY JAMES
Editor-in-Chief

State auditors have found that Central erroneously issued more than \$145,000 in tuition waivers in the past two fiscal years.

As part of a yearly audit released Monday, state auditors also found that controls for past-due student accounts were lacking. At fiscal year end June 30, 2010, more than \$6.64 million in student accounts was past due, with \$3.95 million at least 30 days past due.

According to the audit, university policies from 1994 were not updated when a new billing system was instituted.

Central disputed the findings. “Our assistant A.G. [Attorney General] says we are within both the letter and the spirit of the law,” Central spokeswoman Linda Schactler said.

The audit said initial past-due notices for five accounts totaling \$12,396 were not sent out until 158 to 271 days after the accounts became past due. Three accounts, totaling \$10,540, were not sent to collections until they were past due by more than a year.

“We found during audits of collections in the past that the longer you wait, the harder it is to collect,” said Mindy Chambers, spokeswoman for State Auditor Brian Sonntag.

Current university policy does not state if interest will be charged on these past-due accounts, the audit stated.

In its response, Central said that electronic billing was implemented during fiscal year 2010, “which did result in temporary billing and collection delays.”

The audit also found that 53 tuition waivers, totaling \$145,719, were issued to students who either didn’t meet state or university qualifications, were granted for waiver types without established eligibility requirements or exceeded the maximum allowed by state or university regulations during fiscal years 2010 and 2011. Twenty five waivers totaling \$90,960 were given to dependents or spouses of university employees, the audit found.

Schactler said Central revoked or reduced most of those waivers and that no special favors were given.

“Dependents of employees must compete for waivers just like any other student,” she said.

According to RCW 28B.15.915, universities are allowed to waive tuition for any student, but CWU Policy 2-40-050 states “no university employee may use his or her position or secure special privileges or exemptions for himself or herself, or his or her spouse, child, parents, or other persons.”

According to the auditor’s report, the university has been free of audit findings for the past eight audits. This audit examined several areas of university operations, such as state and federal grants, land purchases, travel, the Open Public Meetings Act and payroll.

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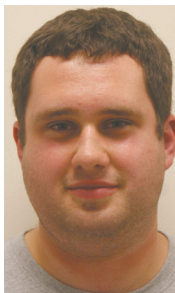
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Thanks to the internet, your antics will live on

One dumb mistake made now in college will follow you long into the future

College, just like life, is full of choices. Sometimes you make the right ones, and other times you pay the consequences. This issue of The Observer has been called the “Is it worth it” issue. We have stories looking into the repercussions from using fake IDs and tanning too often. But as Newton wrote in his laws of motion, every action has an opposite but equal reaction. The same could be said about life. One night of partying can affect you for the rest of your life. If that loud, rowdy party turns into a visit from the police and someone gets arrested or ticketed, the impacts are both short- and long-term.

Recently, I applied for internships. I knew someone would probably look up my court records (and find my speeding ticket from last year). Remember that



By Anthony James
Editor-in-Chief

your legal past is public record, and anybody can access it.

Also, think of the internet as one big time machine. A few days ago, I typed in “Central Washington University” into Youtube just to see what would show up. Besides the latest editions of Newswatch and a bad Communication Department video from 1999, there were several videos along the lines of “Here’s what really happens at CWU,” including one group with alcohol, a bonfire and a shotgun.

By no means is fire, firewater and firepower a good combination. But now it’s on the internet forever. No amount of deleting will make this video go away.

By no means is fire, firewater and firepower a good combination. But now it’s on the internet forever. No amount of deleting will make this video go away.

And don’t forget about social networking sites. Basically all college students only use Facebook anyway, but make sure your profile is marked as private in your privacy settings. Better yet, delete all of those kegstand

photos.

Everybody will make their own decisions in college. That’s part of what’s great about getting a degree. But with the prevalence of the internet, at least be cautious of what you’re putting out into the world.

I have problems with gas

The recent rise in gas prices doesn’t make sense

By now, I’m sure most of you are aware of the high gas prices in our region. I have always wondered what makes these gas prices rise and fall.

I hear different reasons from so many people, but I honestly have no clue as to what makes gas prices rise all the way past \$4.00 a gallon. What makes prices soar in the summer? Where does our oil come from?

First of all, I heard on the news last month that by Memorial Day, gas prices will be around \$4.50 a gallon and \$5.00 by mid-summer. I have heard the same predictions in the past that didn’t come true, so I wasn’t sure whether to believe it or not. Then just this week, I heard that gas prices would be down to \$3.50 by summer. Why are we, as citizens, getting told so many different things?

If gas prices were to hover around \$4.50 or even \$5.00 a gallon, I am sure this country’s economy would be close to collapsing. Gas prices are fluctuating

too much, and it is annoying to me and most everybody I know. Some people say to drive less or carpool, but some absolutely need to drive to their work, school and other responsibilities. We can all drive electric or hybrid cars, but some simply can’t afford to buy these expensive vehicles.

Are events happening overseas affecting our gas prices? I have heard that the prices rise only because of speculation. Sometimes there are events on Facebook telling everybody not to buy gas on a certain day in an effort to cause prices to drop. Would this really work? Are the oil companies taking our hard earned money? I have also heard that some gas stations are keeping the prices high, even though the price for oil has dropped, to earn some extra money.

What’s with the gas prices falling rapidly before a presidential election? Before President Obama was elected, gas prices dropped to around \$1.50 a gallon. During the summer of 2008, prices soared to around \$4.50. There is so much speculation surrounding gas prices, I just don’t know what to believe.

I am sure prices will fall before the 2012 elections and rise once again in 2013. But I for one won’t be happy until prices drop back down to below \$3.00 a gallon.



By Chris Christensen
Copy Desk

Just this week, I heard that gas prices would be down to \$3.50 by summer. Why are we, as citizens, getting told so many different things?

Correction

In a story titled “CWU Wildcat Shop cracks down on thieves”(Issue 6, May 12), Heather Lubohn’s name was spelled wrong. Her title was also listed wrong. Her title is assistant cashier supervisor.

Dear Readers,

The Observer welcomes brief letters (300 words or less) from readers on current issues. Please include your full name and university affiliation: year and major, degree and year graduated, or staff position and department. To be printed in the following week’s issue, please e-mail your letters to cwuobserveropinion@gmail.com by 5 p.m. Monday. The Observer reserves the right to edit for style and length. Anonymous letters will not be considered.

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VISUAL STIMULATION



ANDREW DUNFORD/CONTRIBUTED

“When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe.”

- environmentalist John Muir

HOOKAH BAR OWNER FIGHTS FOR HIS RIGHT

BY JOE SAVIDGE | STAFF REPORTER



Living the dream

The American dream is still alive. TJ McDonald, a 2010 Central graduate, has managed to open a hookah lounge in a state that doesn't allow indoor smoking in public establishments. How did he do this?

Midway through his senior year of college, McDonald spent a year leaving City Hall with rejected business proposals until he struck the master plan.

"They kept telling me no," he said. "I really wanted them to tell me yes."

McDonald circumvented the "no public smoking" law by making The Lounge a private establishment. A lifetime membership costs \$10.

Sometimes, McDonald was in City Hall four days a week.

"If I walk into City Hall now, everyone there knows my name. I

know everybody's first name," he said.

Is McDonald going after the American dream with a fury?

Lance Bailey, city planning supervisor said, "Yea, that's a good way to put it."

In accordance with county and state laws, The Lounge manages to sell tobacco products over 25 feet away from where they are being consumed. The sales take place in a small outbuilding behind The Lounge. The salespeople are employees, while only volunteers are inside The Lounge.

"He's really trying to work it and come up with a solution to this gray area issue," Bailey said.

McDonald received his tobacco sales permit from Bailey.

"It was cool because they had power over me, but as a taxpaying citizen, I had power over them," McDonald said.

"We are not the bars. If you wanna get sloppy go there! Smoking is different than drinking..."
--Lounge culture guide sheet

The Lounge has more than a few bits of wisdom on their 'Lounge Culture' membership guidesheet. One tidbit: "With respect comes respect, Smoking together is about Respecting each other." Another tidbit: "Maintain a calm and chill atmosphere."

At the guidesheet's end is a happy blessing: "Cheers and happy smoking, may all your smoke be puffy and white."

What are we smoking?

Shisha is an herbal molasses that contains tobacco and comes in flavors such as strawberry, wild-berry chill, vanilla and tiger's blood. Shisha is loaded into a bowl and the bowl is covered with foil. Coals placed atop the foil provide the heat for smoking. The smoke cools as it runs through water in the hookah's base before being inhaled by the user.

"It's not as harsh as a cigarette," said employee Zack Dekker. "I've heard of people getting headaches."

One bowl costs \$15 and can

burn for two to three hours. The smoke has the potential to be so puffy and white that your face could be hidden from whoever sits next to you.

Senior business major Kalee Moen volunteers at The Lounge. She likes smoking shisha.

"Sometimes I giggle a little bit," she said.

Dekker, a 2010 Perry Technical Institute graphic design graduate, said he experiences a head buzz after smoking. He provided his own illustrations and paintings on the walls of The Lounge.

Across an orange wall is a Seattle skyline. Half of the Space Needle is a tree. Squiggly designs fill the buildings and tree. Look for hidden messages. Dekker's favorite is "Free Your Mind."

On a crossbeam is a painted quote, "The more we sweat in peace, the less we bleed in war."

On the opposite side is an Albert Einstein quote, "Imagination is more important than knowledge."

Inside, cushioned benches line the perimeter of the up and down-stairs area. The warm atmosphere, complete with a variety of board games, invites relaxation.

Outside, a beautiful garden with a waterfall, koi fish, flowers and plants makes for a peaceful outdoor smoking experience. The atmosphere is a contrast from the downtown bar scene.

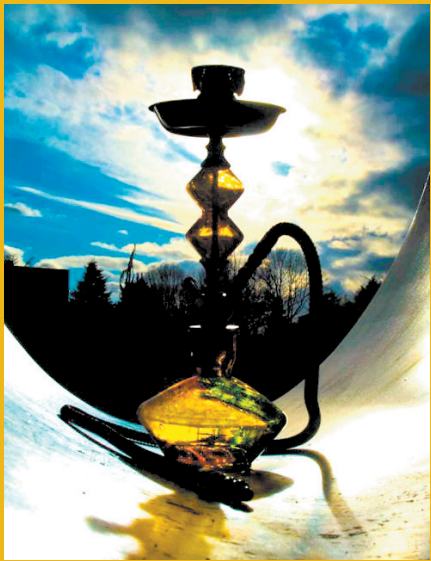
"When I go into 301 and see the bouncers red in the face, it makes me never want to deal with alcohol," McDonald said.

The Lounge serves candy, water, Rockstar, coffee and tea. Pizza Rita will deliver a large one-topping pizza for \$10.

The first music night was last Thursday. According to Dekker, about 25 people came.

"Oh, it was awesome," Dekker said. "Everyone was singing 'Hey Jude.'"

The Lounge also rents its space for private parties, and is planning on doing a 'Cigar Night' in the future. Hours are Friday and Saturday from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m., and Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m.



A Creative, Hardworking Spirit

TJ McDonald graduated with a double major in economics and finance. He saved money to open The Lounge by working other jobs. He is co-owner of T and T Painting, and also spent time as a middle school math tutor in Mattawa.

While The Lounge has attracted over 400 members since opening on April 14, McDonald's painting business continues to operate.

"I'm glad I don't have to work for other people," he said.

McDonald credits Central professors Bill Provaznik and Nancy Graber-Pigeon as being influential.

"They taught me strategy and laws. This is a very strategic business, and the laws complicate everything," he said. "It's beautiful."

Both Provaznik and Graber-Pigeon enjoyed having TJ as a student.

"I think he's incredibly creative and extremely entrepreneurial. He's always looking for things that aren't being done and might be profitable for consumers in the area," Graber-Pigeon said.

"He's a very innovative thinker and he questions assumptions that other people take for granted," Provaznik said. He had a focus for creating value. Sometimes smokers are seen as second-class citizens, but they're not."

McDonald agrees with the fact that he's created a value.

"We have 18-year-olds overdosing on alcohol because they have nowhere to go. We give an option other than getting drunk in the woods," he said. "That creates a value because nobody else offers that."



(Top) Owner TJ McDonald smoking in The Lounge. (Right) Steven Otto enjoys hookah in The Lounge. Photos by Zack Dekker.

Unheard Voices supports fire victims through open mic night

BY KELSEE DODSON-CARTER
Senior Reporter

Giving a voice to those who normally wouldn't perform for an audience is what Unheard Voices does for students and community members. The open mic night sponsored by the Civic Engagement Center (CEC) last Tuesday was directly tied to the house fire on April 16 that tragically took the lives of a mother and her two children.

Investigators found that there were no batteries in the home's smoke detectors. Ellensburg Fire Marshal Joe Seemiller spoke in the SURC Pit and gave advice on how to be safe and prevent fires. Seemiller said that if you live off campus, your chances of dying in a fire are 10 times greater than those living on campus. According to Seemiller, making sure that you have smoke detectors and that they work properly is the most important thing that you can do. He said smoke detectors work and they are used.

"Smoke detectors are \$8," he said. "You are worth \$8."

Seemiller said that the family would be alive today if the batteries in their smoke detectors were working. He also said that he wants to make sure that everyone invests in a fire extinguisher, because they are cheap and handy to have.

"They are lifesavers and they work," he said. "I've used a lot of them professionally and at home."

Seemiller wants everyone to know that they can call for a free fire inspection at any time.

"Nobody thinks a fire is going to happen to them but almost everybody will experience a fire in one way or another," he said.

Not only was this event a learning opportunity for fire safety, but also an event to help people step out of their comfort zones and perform for an audience.

"This event was originally created to give a voice to students and community members that want to share their talents," said Jenna Fernandez, CEC event coordinator.

People are able to share their poetry, music and dance with an audience. These events happen twice a quarter and are usually tied to an important cause. In the past they have been tied to awareness about breast cancer and human trafficking. This event was a tool to inform students about what happens with a fire fatality and for them to realize it could happen to them.

Starbucks and Monster have been sponsoring all of these events. Starbucks offers coffee to 100 people and Monster donates 200 energy drinks. Hernandez says that they have been really supportive in sponsoring all of their events.

Unheard Voices is a passion of Hernandez's. She said that this year was a test year for the program.

"Next year we want to make it huge," she said. "All over campus and in the community."

Junior music education major Josh Parril was master of ceremonies for the night and also performed poetry. He said his performance went smoothly and he was very relaxed because the crowd was very comfortable.

Parril said that performing at this event is fantastic.

"It makes me feel like it's more than a talent show," he said. "It's a chance for me to hang out with my friends and bring awareness to an issue."

All the donations gathered at this event went directly to the Ellensburg Fire Department to help with those affected by the fire. Keep an eye out for the next Unheard Voices event and come share your talents and support a good cause.



JOEY LEBEAU/OBSERVER

UNHEARD VOICES Ellensburg Fire Marshal, Joe Seemiller, speaks about the importance of smoke detectors.

HE'S PICKIN' UP GOOD VIBRATIONS

BY ASHTON CERMAK | STAFF REPORTER



ASHTON CERMAK/OBSERVER

JAMMING Gavin Spurr works on his percussion sounds while practicing.

Gavin Spurr has all the attributes one could expect of a musician; disciplined, well-practiced and open minded. Yet he doesn't come from a musical family.

"I started playing percussion when I was in elementary school," said Spurr, junior percussion performance major. He began playing typical band instruments; snare, bass drum and cymbals.

It wasn't until he participated in a program called the Community Arts Partnership (CAP) through the California Institute of the Arts that he got into hand drumming.

"I took hand drumming classes there, then I started listening to rock recordings," Spurr said. "Then it just took its course."

From there, his passion progressed.

"I played band all through high school and jammed with friends," he said. "By the time I was a senior in high school, I decided 'hey, I'm going to try to go to college', so I auditioned here."

Spurr has an appreciation for Frank Zappa. "I'll play [the album] 'Joes Garage' any day of the week and just sing along," he said. "When Vinnie Colaiuta is drumming with him, he just makes the band bounce."

Another pivotal album in his musical past was System of a Down's "Toxicity."

"The first time I heard that record I thought 'this is where it's at,'" Spurr said.

Another musical force that strikes

a chord with him is jam bands, groups whose musical creativity is based on natural feel over all else. "I listen to lots of Primus, anything with Les Claypool," Spurr said. "I also like Phish and a little jazz here and there."

As a percussionist, Spurr is influenced by artists like Steve Reich and Nebojsa Zivkovic. He also appreciates the work of many drum set players. "I like fusion drummers, early ones like Lenny White, Jack DeJohnette and Billy Cobham," Spurr said.

His inspiration comes from another realm all together. He works with a jazz combo featuring drums, guitar, bass, trumpet and saxophone. Lately, he has been working with the creatively borderless realms of free jazz.

Spurr performed his junior percussion recital last Sunday. Among his performed pieces was a marimba arrangement by Japanese percussionist, Keiko Abe, as well as a marimba piece called "Rhythm Song" which he performed with a drum set player.

After finishing school, he plans to take any job that is given to him. "Timpani would be cool to play, but it's a hard job to get," he said. "You have to wait for someone to die to get that job."

Whether it's a jazz combo gig or a rock band, he will give it everything he's got.

"I always thought playing for a movie soundtrack would be amazing," Spurr said.

The chance to play music is reward enough for him.

Showing their shorts

Central City Comics hosts 2nd biannual film competition

BY LOREN BAYLES
Staff Reporter

A handful of film makers and film enthusiasts met at Central City Comics in downtown Ellensburg on April 30 to launch the second biannual, 48 hour "Show Us Your Shorts" film competition.

The four participating film groups drew their genre, a local location that had to be incorporated into their film, and a profession that at least one of the characters had to occupy.

The genres drawn were horror, road movie, sci-fi and superhero. The groups, made up of four to six members, had only a short window in which to write, film and edit their 10-minute movie. The final DVD copy of each film was due on May 2.

Last Saturday, the film groups gathered again with other members of the community at Gallery One to enjoy the first screening of the three winning films and a brief awards ceremony.

Behind the bar was event organizer Melissa Johnson. Johnson, a lecturer at Central, was able to provide a brief history of the event.

Johnson said it was "an idea that had been passed around [but] that nobody knew what to do with."

Gus Foster, owner of Central City Comics, was approached by several film students with the idea and it just grew from there.

"Gus and I launched the first ["Show Us Your Shorts"] last year in September, the weekend before the Ellensburg Film Festival," Johnson said.

She said the event is a great way "to promote film and the arts in the community and beyond [and] for people within the community to get with other film makers." She called it "a great opportunity for them to network."

Johnson and Foster were also judges for the competition. This year, there were a total of seven judges.

"It was beneficial to have more judge-

es," Johnson said. "As some of them were watching as an audience would."

The movies were judged not only on overall quality but also on "how well they incorporated [the parameters] into their story. We saw diverse incorporation," Johnson said.

The first film shown was the road movie, "Sundown," directed by Josh Perrault. This film told the brief story of two brothers working out their differences on a morning drive around Kittitas County. Though the sound editing made it hard to follow, the cinematography was enough for the judges. The film won an award for best cinematography and best editing.

The film relied heavily upon the interaction between the actors and dialogue written by the screen writers Chris Thomas and Tim Lucia. Lucia said that when they started there was already "a really rough script, so Chris and I sat in the bar and wrote the dialogue while they were filming the first scene."

The second film shown was, "The Passenger," a horror film directed by Jeff Knight. The storyline amounted to a comedian's eerie, uncomfortable cruise with his creepy taxi driver and the strange noises emanating from the rear

of the cab.

Actor and screen writer Jimmy-Dean Cadella talked about creating a film inside the parameters and time constraints.

"We had the script written two hours after we got our genre. We just sat down in the SURC and busted it out," Cadella said.

Knight and his colleagues won an award for best directing, but there was a feeling in the crowd that it should have won more.

Seph Ateratova, a local film enthusiast, said it was his favorite of the three. "It was a very clever script, very funny," he said. "It felt satisfying from beginning to end."

The judges loved the third Sci-Fi film, "I Heart Robot," directed by Connor Galagan-Mead. The film, which explored the problems that may come with being a robot in a human dominated world, won three awards for best acting, best writing and best picture. Everyone involved in the film was very adamant to point out that it was a team effort.

Johnson plans to continue the "Show Us your Shorts" festival.

"Our plan is to do these twice a year, one in the spring and one in the fall. Personally, I just adore the whole process."



"I <3 Robot"
Directed by:
Connor Galagan-Mead.
Won: Best acting, best writing and best picture



"Sundown"
Directed by:
Josh Perrault.
Won: Best cinematography and best editing



"The Passenger"
Directed by:
Jeff Knight.
Won: Best directing

Red Curtain Revue showcases the Central Theatre Ensemble

BY CHANELLE FOURNIER
Staff Reporter

This weekend, Central's musical theatre program will stage their final performance before they step off the Ellensburg stage to tour through Europe.

Central Theatre Ensemble will perform the Red Curtain Revue, a show that consists of several, often very different, musical numbers.

"It just about runs the gamut from fun to kind of funky, to really serious, to really ridiculous theater, almost farce," said Terri Brown, head of the musical theatre department.

Not only do the themes of the acts vary widely, but songs were selected from many different eras.

"We tried really hard to make sure it's not all contemporary musicals or all older musicals," said freshman musical theatre major, Megan Smith.

The diversity of the acts requires the performers to use a multitude of talents, including leadership roles.

"It's a really good opportunity, especially for the students that are directing," said junior musical theatre major Ben Sasnett. "These [acts] are proposed by students, directed by students and students got to pick who they wanted for their song"

Smith was one student who was selected for a directing role, a job usually reserved for seniors. She directed a tap dance scene from "Thoroughly Modern Millie."

"It's a big thing for a freshman to get asked to direct," she said. "I was super shocked and honored."

The broad skill-set that the students are practicing is important for the educational goals of the theatre department.

"We want the kids to have skills doing a whole lot of different things," said Scott Robinson, chair of the theatre department. "Our students have to be proficient in acting, singing, and dancing." A unique aspect of the show is that it includes all of the musical theatre students, who have a variety of different strengths.

"One of the things that I really like about this show is that it showcases so many different people," Sasnett said. "It's a nice way for all of us to work together on something."

Out of the 34 students in the show, 25 have been invited to tour in Bulgaria and Italy this summer. The Revue will be a foundation for their European tour, though the overseas version will be modified.

"We are the only musical theatre group west of the Mississippi that has ever been invited," Brown said of the tour.

According to Sansett, students that attend the show will not only get a chance to support their fellow students, but will also reap the benefits of exposure to musical performance.

"Music has a way of kind of transcending boundaries. Even though people aren't that expressive in every day life, people carry around these emotions and feelings," Sasnett said. "It should make you feel something when you see it. That's kind of the point: to make people conscious of life around them."

The Red Curtain Revue will be performed May 20 and 21 at 7:30 p.m. and May 22 at 2 p.m. in the Milo Smith Tower Theatre. Tickets are \$5 for students with ID and \$8 for general admission. Tickets can be purchased at cwu.edu/~theatre/tix.

Central alum shares her fashion business secrets

BY MONIQUE PARKER
Staff Reporter

There are many very successful alumni that come out of Central, and Kim Crumpler, creator of Uniquely Savvy is no exception.

In 2009, Crumpler began Uniquely Savvy, a company that offers an experienced personal shopper, brand analysis, body and color analysis and wardrobe analysis.

The company started as a dress for success concept.

Crumpler graduated from Central in 1993 with a major in retail management and fashion merchandising and a minor in business administration.

Crumpler recognized that society judges you when you don't look the part. She also saw the power in shifting your own personal concept.

"Clothes are not going to change who you are or how you think, you have to change your mindset first." Crumpler said.

When Uniquely Savvy began, Crumpler started with just one client and after that, generated most of her clients through referral.

"When you bring the best of who you are to the table, people normally talk about that," Crumpler said.

Crumpler helps her clients create their personal brand or definition of how they want to feel, how they want to look and how they want to be perceived by others.

Crumpler helps pull back her clients

layers so that they can discover their own styles.

She then works with them to choose styles that are in alignment with their personal brand.

Brianne Diebner, 24 year old middle school teacher and past client of Uniquely Savvy says she loved the experience.

"It's like 'What Not to Wear' but much nicer," Diebner said. "Kim is really respectful of who you are."

Brianna was given a Uniquely Savvy package as a gift shortly after beginning her career as a middle school teacher.

"I felt like I was being how I've always been," Diebner said. "I really needed to come into who I am."

Brianna says that Crumpler has taught her that you can find great outfits for a bargain.

"You can add a beautiful piece of jewelry to an ordinary outfit and turn it in to something new."

Diebner says that the most important take away she got from Crumpler and Uniquely Savvy was, "to really believe I'm beautiful the way that I am."

Jim Armstrong, director of alumni relations, is really excited to have Crumpler come and speak.

"If students listen carefully, this could be to their advantage," Armstrong said. "Kim will show them how to stand up in a crowd favorably."

Kim Crumpler will be speaking on May 25 in the SURC theater from 1-2:30 p.m.

Piano-based pop singer brings her music to the SURC pit

PERFORMANCE REVIEW
BY MAECY ENGER
Staff Reporter

Sara Jackson-Holman, came to Central last Thursday to share her rich singing voice and a variety of songs that separate her from other artists. Her music has sounds of piano, strings and unusual harmonies, making it fall under alternative and pop genres. Liz Rich, senior public relations major and student programmer, was excited that Jackson-Holman brought a new dynamic of piano as the main instrument rather than guitar which most performers use. “It’s always different looking at their MySpace page or their Facebook page and then hearing it live,” Rich said. The performance was very casual, with students passing by and occasionally stopping to listen. Mike Tobias, sophomore political science major, had never heard of Jackson-Holman until he was reading in the pit when she started performing. She reminded him of Amy Winehouse. “Definitely original and I think that’s awesome,” Tobias said.

Jackson-Holman fell in love with music after she started playing classical piano at age 7. Bach, Schumann and Beethoven were all composers who inspired her. Jackson-Holman was a piano and writing student at Whitworth University, where she was exposed to pop and indie music, which inspired her music today. This was her first time at Central. “I really like participation of the audience and that it’s kind of this communication that happens and that sort of energy I really like,” Jackson-Holman said. Originally, she never thought she would be recording albums, her childhood dream was to become a vet, with one of her favorite places being the zoo. When it comes to practicing, performing or recording, practicing is one of her least favorite things to do. Recording songs is almost an art in itself, but performing is at the top. “Ultimately though I write songs to perform them,” she said. “Performing is probably my favorite.” Marie Mobach, an exchange student, thought her music was very calming. Mariela Romero, freshman psychology major, liked the music and compared

her to Lily Allen or Kate Nash. Zach Lamance, junior graphic design major, listened to Jackson-Holman for the first time. “It’s [got a] unique classic feel to it,” Lamance said.

Jackson-Holman’s first album, “When You Dream” features the song, “Into the Blue” which played on the ABC show, “Castle.” She is planning on recording her new album with her favorite songs as this August.

Central gamers compete in first Marvel vs. Capcom 3 Tournament

Central’s best and brightest gamers congregated last Thursday to duel each other in a match-up of the West and East’s best heroes. The game: “Marvel vs. Capcom 3.” Marvel vs. Capcom is a fighting game series that brings Western comic book stars like Spiderman and Wolverine against Eastern-based fighting game legends such as Ryo and Chun-Li. The matches play out street-fighter style (since the game is developed by Capcom) and feature various combat styles for each character. “I love Marvel vs. Capcom 3,” said Sherrod Sims, senior information technology and administrative management major and creator of the event. “There are a lot of people on campus who enjoy it.” There were about a dozen competitors. For two and a half hours, these players endured button mashing and hadoken as they tried to work their through the bracket. The tournament was a single-elimination format, with three games per match. In addition, each match was a three-on-three character fight. Players were allowed to practice on a TV with a Playstation 3 on one side of the room, while official matches were conducted on the other side. After two hours, the final match between Marc Paterno and James began. Both sides sent a flurry of attacks, fighting with fury, but Paterno won the match. Paterno was rewarded with a Central sweatshirt by Sims and James received a Central t-shirt. “It’s pretty awesome, dude,” said Paterno. When asked about his victory, a grin came across his face. The Marvel vs. Capcom series began in 1996 with “X-Men vs. Street Fighter,” featuring characters from those series. It wasn’t until two sequels later that the series adopted its current name. “Marvel vs. Capcom: Clash of Super Heroes” was the first to feature characters beyond just the street fighter characters and the Marvel superheroes. The current game, “Marvel vs. Capcom 3: Fate of Two Worlds,” was released earlier this year with a redefined control system from its predecessors. It also won several pre-release awards at Electronic Entertainment Expo 2010 from various media outlets.



BY BRYAN EATON
Staff Reporter

I love Marvel vs. Capcom 3. There are a lot of people on campus who enjoy it.
-SHERROD SIMS
Senior I.T. and administrative management major

Patt Haley’s memory lives on through her memorial scholarship and co-workers

BY ALYSSA HOARD
Staff Reporter

A few weeks ago in Holmes Dining Hall there was a buzz in the air as visitors and students gathered for Friday Fest, a fundraiser in honor of Patt Haley. A silent auction was held with all proceeds going to support the Patt Haley Memorial Scholarship, providing emergency financial support to Central students. Auction items included Mariner’s tickets, Gorge concert tickets, dinner from Pink’s Catering, paintings and artistic baskets. The second annual event raised over \$1,700, to go to students with medical needs or to provide such things as glasses to students who simply cannot afford them. “The event went well and even though [it was] sparsely attended, we gave great auction items away,” said Jack Baker, assistant to the vice president of student affairs. “The staff dedicated this fund in honor of Patt Haley, who always had such an appreciation and was truly dedicated to the needs of our students here at Central. And we believed it to be a positive message we still try to carry on everyday.” Haley served as the administrative assistant to the vice president of student affairs and enrollment management and held numerous other positions at Central for over 36 years. “Patt was my beloved administrative assistant for eight years and a person I’d value beyond words and expressions,” said Charlotte Tullos, co-worker and friend of Haley. Haley passed away in early March, but her work continues. Her foundation is giving to Central students in need. Haley “meant so much to me,” Tullos said. “I miss her greatly.” Haley was always known for brightening up the office with flowers. She was a “caring person who always brought in her grandson and helped raise money for local 4-H lamb projects in the community by setting up coin cans on [her] desk,” Baker said. Haley was a wife, mother of two sons, Timothy and Sean, and grandmother of three to Dakota, Ethan and Dominic. Husband Don stood by her for 50 years. They settled in Ellensburg in 1972, after living half way around the world in South Australia, as he was with the Army. Don said she was a “workaholic and would bring 90 percent of her work home as she spent most of the time in the office on the phone helping student affairs.” When she did have time outside of the office, Haley enjoyed spending her afternoons in the garden or taking her grandchildren to Little League or football practice. She is greatly missed by loved ones and co-workers. She dedicated her life to helping students every day at Central. Don continues to strive to help Central students. His name is being dedicated on May 20 to the ROTC history library.

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CREY SMITH/OBSERVER

GAME ROOM Gamers gathered last Thursday to watch the Marvel vs. Capcom 3 tournament. The tournament battles took place on the left side, and the non-competitive or practice battles were on the right television screen.

THE SCOOP

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MAY 25
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LAW ENFORCEMENT
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SURC PIT
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Inner beauty shines through

BY ASHTON CERMAK
Staff Reporter

In a culture where physical appearance carries so much weight, true beauty can go completely unnoticed. The Center for Student Empowerment sought to make sure inner beauty is known at the third annual Inner Beauty Pageant.

This was no ordinary beauty pageant, an event that was merely one part of a whole week dedicated to inner beauty. Contestants were kept behind a large black curtain while a PowerPoint presentation displayed facts like, “A woman will spend two and a half years styling, cutting, straightening and coloring her hair both inside and outside a salon.” One of the more jarring pieces of information to come through the slideshow was that “11 million Americans had plastic surgery in 2006, up seven percent from the previous year.”

One by one, contestants answered questions about their ideas of beauty from behind the black curtain. The first contestant stated, “Our hearts are drunk with beauty that our eyes will never see,” emphasizing that physical beauty gives you nothing.

The second contestant, a male, was set on proving that magazines, like Cosmopolitan and Vogue, cannot teach beauty. The third contestant followed with a plea that, “in the real world, women aren’t supposed to look like hell.”

After answering the question of what

beauty is, the contestants did a question and answer session. These questions targeted how their individual life experiences shaped their idea of beauty and what it means to them personally.

Before they crowned a winner, an interpretive dance troop from Sunnysideperformed a piece of interpretive dance to drive in the notion that beauty is subject to interpretation, that there is no universal standard.

“The Center for Student Empowerment has made me a much better student and a more holistic individual,” said Stephanie Sype, senior fashion merchandising and public relations major who organized the event. “I was always interested in fashion when I was growing up, but I didn’t really realize there are careers in fashion outside of store management.”

Sype began working for the Center for Student Empowerment two and a half years ago after she realized she loved event planning. “I’d like to do event planning in the fashion industry, in terms of doing fashion shows,” Sype said.

“I’ve always been someone who has struggled with body image issues myself,” Sype said. “I mean who hasn’t, but I dealt with it a lot growing up and healthy body image is something I’ve always been trying to promote.”

Sype believes when you can’t control other aspects of your life, you need something to control, and that is body image.



JESSICA MASSART/OBSERVER

INNER BEAUTY QUEEN Jennifer Arledge, English major and president of the Feminist Majority Leadership Association, won the Inner Beauty contest.



Artists to appear at Clymer Museum for 20th anniversary

BY LOREN BAYLES
Staff Reporter

This Friday, the Clymer Art Exhibit and Auction kicks off at the Swiftwater Cellars at Suncadia Resort.

The event is being held in honor of artist John Ford Clymer and is a celebration of the Clymer Museum of Art’s 20th anniversary.

Mia Merendino, Clymer Museum of Art director, said there is a “stellar lineup of artists. Some of the top artists of the Western genre are represented. Many [of the] artists were honored to have been invited, since they know of John Clymer’s career, talent and legacy.”

The pieces to be auctioned on Saturday, including one Clymer original, have been on display in an exhibit at the Clymer Museum and Gallery since May 5 and will be taken to Suncadia tomorrow.

The exhibit features the artwork of 39 prominent artists from all over the Western United States and Canada, four of them from Washington. Artists Jerry McKellar, George Flett, Michael Lewis and Ned Muller, all from Washington, were invited to contribute. Muller, who lives in Renton, will be one of two artists involved in a quick draw as part of the gala party.

Muller and Sarah Webber of Wilson,

Wyo., will each paint an original work before an audience in less than two hours that will be auctioned off upon completion.

Friday night’s festivities will include live music from Seattle musician Jim Basnight and an awards ceremony to honor the artists.

“We will be honoring the artists with [three] awards,” Merendino said. The John and Doris Clymer Legacy Award, a People’s Choice Award and an award for Best of Show in the Wildlife Category.

On Saturday morning there will be a champagne brunch with the main auction to follow at 1 p.m. Tickets are available at the Clymer Museum.

Merendino said the auction is a win win for the museum and the artists.

It “is a fundraiser for the museum, but the artists still will make money if their work sells,” Merendino said. “In other words, their works aren’t donations to the museum.”

Though the Clymer Museum is in its 20th year of operation in downtown Ellensburg, this event will be the first auction to benefit the museum.

Its purpose is “to promote the museum to a larger audience, to celebrate our anniversary, and to help create a weekend of art in the Kittitas Valley,” Merendino said.

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Belting the note

SNATS hosts Bella Notte event and silent auction

BY MAECY ENGER
Staff Reporter

An evening on the piazza, the theme of this year's fourth annual Bella Notte dinner theater and silent auction, was hosted by the Student Chapter of the National Association for Teachers of Singing (SNATS).

Although last Sunday was far from a beautiful night, the SNATS club created an eloquent dinner mixed in with traces of Italy, creating a wonderful atmosphere to set the theme.

The 11 students performing sang an Italian opera selection. Selections ranged from W.A. Mozart to Giacomo Puccini, the piano accompanied each singer.

Sara Carroll, junior music education major with choral specialization, planned the event and said she hoped that it would bring people joy. She said she wanted to see her fellow students have fun and interact with the community. One of the main goals was to create community involvement, which is why the event was not held on campus or at St. Andrews Church, as it has been in previous years.

This was the first time the students hosted the event in the Hal Holmes Community Center. Alexandra Churm, freshman vocal performance major, was excited to be a part of something that allows the community to be involved with students.

Sarah Hemenway, sophomore vocal performance major, wanted to see the way people reacted to the talent of Central students. She said that the event was a good way to show the community the talent at Central and hopefully gain more fans for the SNATS club and Central as a whole. Hal Holmes community Center provided a stage and enough room to make the area not too crowded, producing a more intimate feel with dimmed lighting, candle lit tables and spring décor.

This event helped the students gain confidence performing, learn skills in planning events and served as a fundraiser for the club. Tiffany Oestreich, senior music education major, said this event really helped her learn how to plan fundraising events and she might have to do it later on when she becomes a music teacher. The club also hosted a silent auction with items donated from organizations around the community such as Pink with Envy, Brick Road Books, Bar 14 Restaurant and many others. Some of the items donated were books, Barbie's, baskets and even an English riding saddle.

Bianca Tahiri, freshman fashion merchandising and public relations major, attended the event because she wanted to hear Joe Sacchi sing. Tahiri didn't originally know that he could sing, but was amazed at how talented he was. She was also interested in learning a little about her Italian heritage.



MAECY ENGER/OBSERVER

SARAH HEMENWAY Sarah Hemenway, sophomore vocal performance major, begins to sing the "O del mio dolce ardor" by Christopher Willibald Gluck.

"It's really cute so far," Tahiri said. "I like the set up."

After those in attendance had time to mill about at the silent auction, the first singer began performing while caesar salads were served to the guests. The food was prepared by Dima Porgrebianc, from the Valley Café restaurant. Pasta was served next as singers made their way onto the stage. For each course, another two or three singers would perform their solo song. Alix Deenin, freshman mu-

sic education major, was at the event to perform her first solo. She said she was mainly excited to see her friends perform and take away experience from this event.

"Definitely just to gain solo experience so it's easier," Deenin said.

Joe Sacchi, freshman vocal performance major, also wanted to get some experience under his belt.

"I'm excited for getting a chance to perform and share the music with all the people out there," Sacchi said.

She doesn't let her size get in her way

BY MONIQUE PARKER
Staff Reporter

This fall Khristian Jourdan will suit up as a Central cheerleader. Jourdan is a freshman studying English education.

Jourdan is a little person, standing at 3'7". Dwarfism is a type of skeletal dysplasia that results from a particular medical condition. Dwarfs range between 2 feet 8 inches and 4 feet 8 inches tall.

What you wouldn't guess at first glance is that she is a cheerleader, and not just any cheerleader, an NCA (National Cheerleaders Association) cheerleader. Jourdan has been cheering since she was seven years old.

"I just love the peppiness and making people smile," Jourdan said.

Although her condition might make it hard to cheer, Jourdan says shes never

faced any challenges. She's very active and played other sports before she found her niche in cheerleading.

Connie Jourdan, her mother, started putting Jourdan in sports when she was young.

"I always said I would never treat her differently than any other kids," Connie said. "There's nothing she won't accomplish or hasn't already, she jumps every hurdle that's placed in front of her."

Jourdan is very serious about cheering. "I'm a little bit more competitive than most just to prove I can keep up with everybody," Jourdan said.

Jourdan's size doesn't affect her cheering. She's a flyer on her current squad and normally only small adjustments have to be made to balance out the formations.

Lynnyetta Keller, Jourdan's former cheer coach at Renton High School,

wasn't afraid or cautious about Jourdan's cheering.

"I was nervous about her stunting, but no more than I was worried about anyone else," Keller said. "Khristian doesn't look at herself or treat herself differently, she's very inspirational, nothing is stopping her."

She looks at her dwarfism as motivation or a push forward rather than a setback.

"I want to prove to other people that I'm the same as everyone else," Jourdan said. She has never faced any disrespect due to her dwarfism.

"I just want to let everyone know, I would rather people ask me than assume and get their own answers because then, it becomes an issue," Jourdan said of her dwarfism.



ALLISON HOWARD/OBSERVER

PEPPINESS Khristian Jourdan shows her excitement about making the Central cheer squad.

Welcome back to The Outhouse! We've missed you. Sit down, relax and enjoy this week's poem, "The Writing Process—A dream," a dark imagining by Trevor Penland. Penland is a writing specialization major in his final quarter at Central, and was recently honored with the Betty E. Evans award for achievement in creative writing for his poem "Cassandra to her brothers."

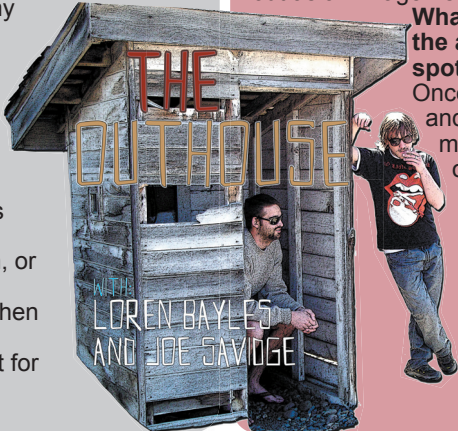
The Writing Process - A Dream by Trevor Penland

I was me and not me. Watching myself walk slowly along a shore, I was both watcher and watched. The fog was dense, but I could hear light splashes from the oars of a boat near me. The river before me, still as a mirror, reflected the murky, hiding sun directly above: noon, no shadows. As I drew closer to the sound, I saw a cloaked, hooded figure standing in a narrow boat, facing away. I was beckoned, though he did not move.

Once in the boat, he turned his face toward me and I saw only bone. Frightened, I tried to run, but the boat was already moving, the fog was turning black. The sun ran away. "Charon," I called, but he did not answer. Here was Death, rowing me into the darkness across this river Styx.

Halfway, he stopped and turned. The hollow eyes showed nothing. He raised his boney hand and I mirrored his action, just touching. Then he returned to his rowing, facing me this time.

He slowly started to grow flesh, flesh I knew well. His hands, my hands. His face, my face. In my astonishment, I hadn't noticed the brightness had returned, fog lifted. We reached the shore, and he left, leaving his cloak behind. He was now me, I him, or were we always such? I knew then the river was Lethe. Now, I wait for his return.



Q and A with Trevor Penland

So was this an actual dream?

No, but it was based on an actual dream.

Which part?

The opening scene, standing on the shore hearing the splashes. It started out as an image I explored.

What's symbolic about the apparition trading spots with you?

Once it's written down and published, it's not me anymore. It's a part of the reader's life. It's a reflection of me to some extent, but it becomes theirs too.

What does the poem say about the act of writing?

A writer creates a whole new being [as] the writing takes on

a life of its own. I empty myself and that thing on the page turns into something else.

Who are your biggest poetic influences?

Lisel Mueller is definitely my biggest poetic influence. Joseph Powell, not just his teaching, but his poetry. Seamus Heaney for his rhythms and sounds. [Heaney] manages to make words sound just the way he wants them to. Kim Addonizio.

Do you have a favorite quote?

I tail my e-mails with John Steinbeck's motto, ad astra per alia porci (to the stars on the wings of a pig). [Steinbeck] described himself as a lumbering soul trying to fly.

How do you feel about being in The Outhouse?

You know what, it's there. The initial writing process is what you do in The Outhouse. Of course, then you have to clean it up.

Swim team drowns competition at nationals



COURTESY OF CWU SWIM CLUB

SWIMMING WITH THE FISHES (Upper-left) Senior law and justice major Baden Sprinkle comes up for air. (Upper-right) Junior Matt Peterson (second from left) leaps into the water. (Below) Peterson comes up for air while doing the breast stroke.

BY DANNY SCHMIDT
Staff Reporter

Central's club swimming team was as hot as the Mesa, Ariz. weather during the United States Master Swimming (USMS) nationals. The trip was a great team bonding experience and the Wildcat team also did extremely well.

The four-day meet featured 1800 total swimmers, 12 from Central. The Wildcats ended the meet with 21 total medals and came in 10th place overall as a team.

Senior criminal justice major Baden Sprinkle stole the spotlight at the event. Sprinkle took home eight medals, five of which were individual events. After the

meet, Central's best times for the 200-back, 500-free, 100-individual medley (IM) and 200-back all belonged to Sprinkle. Sprinkle set new personal records for all of his events.

Sprinkle wasn't the only Wildcat to win or set new club records in Arizona. Junior flight technology major Matt Peterson came in 14th in the men's 100-fly and third in the 200-fly. Peterson's 200-fly mark set a new club record.

"I wasn't expecting it but I was hoping for it," Peterson said. "It was definitely one of our better showings."

Junior music major Ellora Wahle came in 6th in the women's 200-breast. Wahle knew her and her team had potential, but

admittedly wasn't expecting the type of success the team had.

"It's a really big meet," Wahle said. "We were really going down there for the experience. A lot of us just went down there hoping to do our best and see what we could do. It was cool to come in 10th overall. It is a national level meet. It's good to get a lot of recognition on that level."

Federico Bettini placed 15th in the 100-fly and Sam Clark finished 10th in the 50-fly, adding to the successful day for Wildcat swimmers.

The trip to Arizona provided a great team bonding experience for Central. The small, close-knit group enjoyed their experience and has only gotten closer

since.

"It was a lot of fun," Peterson said. "It was a great bonding experience. We've all been hanging out with each other a lot since we've been back. The fact that everybody did so well, it really showed everybody what they're capable of."

Sprinkle is hoping that the success the team had in Arizona will translate into more recruits for Central swimming. The USMS nationals will be held in North Carolina next year, which Sprinkle hopes will entice incoming freshmen to join.

"Everyone enjoyed every minute of it," Sprinkle said. "People have been calling me saying they'd go back right now if they could."



Softball comes up empty at regionals



COREY SMITH/OBSERVER

TRYING TO CATCH A THIEF Senior shortstop Samantha Petrich tries to tag out a Western Washington base runner in the last series of the season. Central ousted Western Washington University from the regional tournament in Chico, Calif.

BY GIANCARLO GONZALEZ
Senior Reporter

They knew they were better than their competition, but a couple of bunts in their first loss and some questionable calls by the umpire in their final loss led to the end of Central's softball season.

The Wildcats' overall record of 34-16 included an impressive winning streak of 24 out of 27. They won another Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) title and broke a load of school records along the way.

"They played their heart and soul out. I couldn't have asked for more from my team as a first year head coach," said head coach Mallory Holtman.

Still, the bittersweet feeling of a season coming to an end hit everyone differently.

"It was really tough, especially since we felt we were the better team," said senior shortstop Samantha Petrich.

The postseason started with a tough loss to the top-seeded UC San Diego Tritons. Senior pitcher Lauren Hadenfeld kept the Wildcats in the game by getting out of a bases-loaded, no-out jam in the first.

In the fourth, senior infielder Kelsey Hauptert sent one into the bleachers for her 21st home run of the season, tops in all of Division II. But it wasn't enough, as the Tritons scored two runs in the sixth, with none of their hits leaving the infield.

The 2-1 loss left the Wildcats in do-or-die mode the rest of the way.

Their next opponent was rival Western Washington. The Vikings and Wildcats split the season series 3-3 and the winner would move on while the loser would go home. Central opened the scoring in the third by putting a five spot on the board. It was vintage Central softball as the Wildcats put base runners on and then drove them home.

Junior infielder Molly Coppinger hit a double, then junior outfielder Bre Thomas walked, setting up junior outfielder Jennifer Schwartz, who drove them both in with a double.

Petrich then cranked out a two-run shot to make it 4-0. The Wildcats loaded the bases and walked in a run to make the score 5-0, but the Vikings came back in the bottom frame to pull within one run.

Central salted it away in the seventh, as Hauptert and senior outfielder Keilani Cruz got on base with singles before sophomore infielder Carrina Wagner smacked a three-run homer to make it 8-4. Haden-

feld picked up her 24th win of the season with a 1-2-3 seventh inning.

"It was a big win for us because we took the season series from Western," Holtman said.

Next up was host Chico State. Central's postseason ended with a close and controversial loss. In the third, two illegal pitches were called against Hadenfeld, the second call leading to a run for Chico State. The one run represented the margin of loss for the Wildcats.

"You never want the umpires to decide a game," Petrich said. "Lauren pitched a heck of a game and I think the umpires were calling the game too close and should have just let us play."

Down 2-0 in the fourth, Central came back to tie it on back-to-back RBI singles by junior infielder Liz Jusko and Wagner. The game was knotted until the sixth when Chico State scored the winning run on a double. Central's season came to an end with the loss.

"I told them I was proud of them," Holtman said.

Even so, emotions ran high.

"Teammates were coming up to me and thanking me for everything I'd done this year and the waterworks just kept coming," Hadenfeld said.

Hadenfeld and Hauptert were roommates for the regional and the seniors shared in the moment of saying goodbye.

"It was really hard. Right after the game we were all crying, then we got ourselves together, and we started crying again on the field as a team, knowing this was the last game we would ever play," Hauptert said. "I went out to dinner with my parents after the game and I was fine, and then the waiter who knew we were playing softball asked how we did and then the tears came again."

The flight home was about coming to grips with the end. The upcoming softball banquet will be about closure.

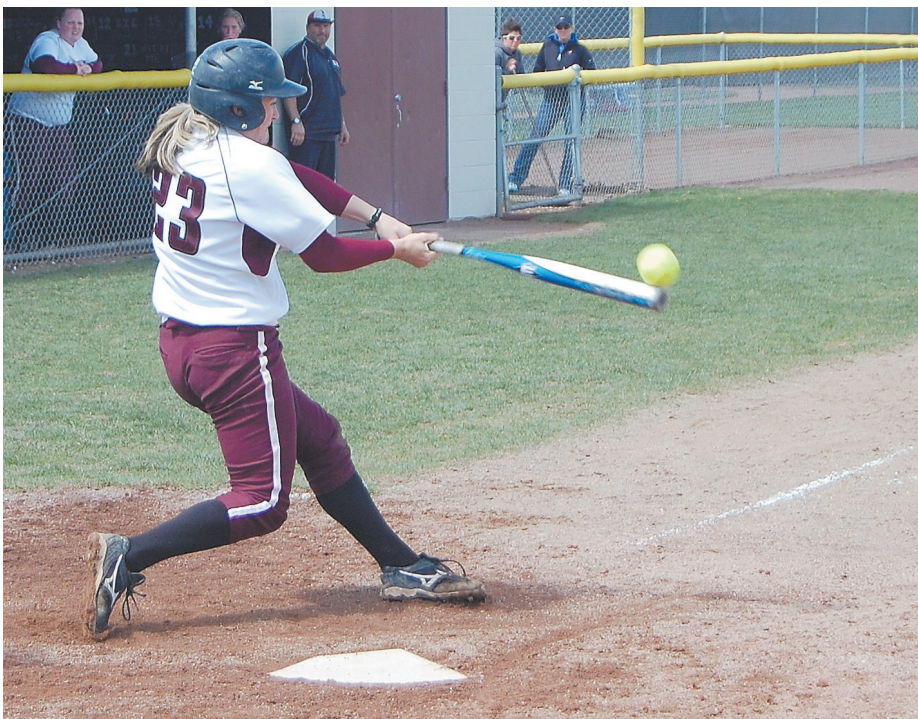
Petrich and the rest of the senior class, will move on with their lives, saying goodbye to their playing days with memories made for themselves as a team and for the fans who watched them.

The Central softball team leaves behind a legacy of winning and never giving up regardless of the count, score or inning. Their future, like the NCAA advertisement, includes going pro in something other than sports.

"I plan on being a firefighter, a personal trainer to athletes and a softball coach," Petrich said.

“They played their heart and soul out. I couldn’t have asked for more from my team as a first year head coach.

-MALLORY HOLTMAN
Head softball coach



COREY SMITH/OBSERVER

GOIN' YARD Samantha Petrich, senior shortstop, swings at pitch against Western Washington University in the last home game of the season.



COREY SMITH/OBSERVER

THROWIN' HEAT Lauren Hadenfeld, senior pitcher, pitches against Western Washington University on the last home game of the regular season.

CWU Wake Sports throws down in San Diego

BY RANDY RAJKOVICH
Staff Reporter

Central's wake boarding team wrapped up their season of competition last weekend in San Diego, participating in the Collegiate National Wakeboard Championships, also referred to as the Alt Game Nationals.

Coming off a second place finish in the Empire Wake Regional's in Portland, Ore., Wake Central traveled to Mission Bay in San Diego to participate in the Alt Game Nationals.

The Central wake boarding club faced off against tough schools from Illinois State, Oklahoma and the University of Wisconsin.

The club's riders competed in both men's and women's events. The men had four divisions and the women had two, each rider was graded on three factors.

Eddie Roberts, club vice president and senior tourism major said the rider's are judged on style, how clean you land the trick, amplitude, how big you take your trick, composition and how difficult your tricks are.

The team finished the Alt Game Nationals taking the seventh spot in the rankings.

In the individual rankings the club's president and senior public relations major, Brett Lund, took second place in men's Division D and Sean Harris placed third the Men's Division C.

"Everyone rode well," Harris said. "We are really satisfied with how we did."

In the women's Division A, Kodie Trinidad took seventh place.

The Alt Game Nationals will be televised on June 25th on CBS network.

Now that the competitions have finished for the season, the club will focus on getting riders to improve for next year's competitions.

"We're focusing on club matters now," Lund said. "We want to focus on getting our members the opportunity to ride and prepare for next year's events and make sure were competitive."

Next year will be the wake boarding team's ninth year as a club on campus and the fourth year in competition.



COURTESY OF CWU WAKE SPORTS

CATCHING SOME AIR Two members of the Central Wake Sports Club perform tricks at a competition last spring.

Lund is very proud to be a part of the program.

"We are known now as a national power house for wake boarding," Lund said. "When we go to competitions other teams fear us."

Future events for the club include the Fall Classic at Copper Lake, Regional's and the Alt Game Nationals. The team is also working on hosting a local event

in Washington, but no plans have been made official.

The wake boarding team has 55 members and is always looking to add new riders to the club. If you are interested in joining the club, you can contact Roberts at eddie@lakesports.com.



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THE OBSERVER

Central fares well in GNAC Championships



KATHARINE LOTZE/OBSERVER

GETTIN' DOWN AND DIRTY Senior Torrie Self (Right) and juniors Scott Powers (Above) and Jason Caryl (Below) all competed in the GNAC championships in Monmouth Ore.



BY PETER MALATH
Staff Reporter

Though the final day of the 2011 Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) Outdoor Track and Field Championships on Saturday at McArthur Field did not offer much joy for the Wildcat track and field team, senior Torrie Self was not denied, winning the women's hammer throw, giving Central's track and field team some pride.

Self saw off the challenge from Western Washington University's (WWU) Lindsay Wells, with a throw of 53.48 meters to win the event by 11.5 feet, adding on to her win in the women's discus a day earlier.

In the women's 100-meter hurdles, freshman Chelsea Genther took third

place with a mark of 14.78 seconds behind Tanya Bjornsson of WWU and Ardrienna Everett of Alaska Anchorage who finished in first and second place respectively. Another Wildcat, in Adriana Mendoza took third place in the women's 3000-meter steeplechase.

In the field events, Central had the top-two finishes with senior Shaina Afoa, sophomore Katharine Lotze who took third place in the shot put and triple jump in that order.

Overall in the women's events, Central took fourth place with 97 points in a highly contested field. Surging challengers such as Northwest Nazarene, Alaska Anchorage and Simon Fraser tallied in with 88.5, 86 and 79 points respectively. Seattle Pacific went home with the women's title with a commanding total of 206.5 points,

with WWU in second place with 121 and third place Western Oregon finished with 109 points.

Top performers coming in the men's events were sophomores Scott Morrison, who finished third in the 400-meter dash with a time of 48.61 seconds and sophomore Andrew Venema, who took third place in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 15.58 seconds. Sophomore Manny Melo took second place with a time of 42.38 seconds in the 400-meter relay while tying for second place in the triple jump with a mark of 14.01 meters.

On the men's side, Western Oregon took home the men's title with a combined 203 points. WWU followed in second place with 173.5 and Central finished with 130 points, as the team could only add on 57 points on the last day of the event.

This event marked the end of the regular season. Only two Central athletes will continue their season as they head to the NCAA Division II Outdoor Field and Track Championships in Turlock, Calif. next Thursday and Friday.

Self is attending the Division II Nationals for her second time. She attended last Spring where she placed 14th. Self is seeded 10th with a throw of 55.58 meters.

Also attending the championship is junior GNAC Newcomer of the Year, Kaitlin Davis. Davis is also seeded 10th with a mark of 3.73 meters.

Self and Davis are two of the four total GNAC athletes to attend this year's National Championship. This marks the 13th consecutive season that Central has had someone represent the school in the championships.

Football staff grabs six “white-chip” recruits

BY **BYRCE HJALSETH**
Assistant Sports Editor

Central’s football program has signed 22 student-athletes to National Letters of Intent to see how their skills fare at the next level.

Twenty-one of the signing athletes are Washington natives, with one from Oregon.

“We really have some high expectations for this year’s recruits,” said head coach Blaine Bennett. “We probably signed the best class of the four we have signed as a staff.”

Colin Walsh, the one out of state athlete, is a 6-foot-4-inch quarterback out of Reynolds High School in Troudale. He set school records this senior year in passing yards and touchdowns. He passed for 2,983 yards with 27 touchdowns on his way to being selected the first team all-conference quarterback.

While having connections with Walsh’s high school head coach and after watching his tapes, Central’s coaching staff knew that he was more talented than the quarterbacks available in Washington.

Among other athletes signed were nine lineman, five running backs, three wide receivers, three defensive backs and one linebacker.

“We want a freshman class that is very diverse and talented at every single one of the positions,” Bennett said.

According to the Seattle Times, six of the athletes recruited were ranked among the top 100 prep prospects in Washington, also referred to as white chip recruits.

One of the white chip recruits is Ryan Romeis, a 6-foot-2-inch, 230-pound defensive lineman out of Bothell. Max-preps.com had him ranked number two overall for his position in Washington. He helped his high school team make it to the state quarterfinals last year and the semi-finals in 2009.

Another top prospect that slipped through the ranks was Jake Bainton, a 6-foot-4-inch safety out of Issaquah. He is a big safety that has a lot of talent. Bainton also played wide receiver in high school, but has a good chance of playing linebacker in college due to his size.

“He can shut down the run and be the difference maker,” said offensive line coordinator and recruiting coordinator John Picha. “Give him a year or two in the college system where he can blossom, I think he will be one of our top recruits.”

The coaching staff added depth to the running back position by signing two white chip recruits, Nicolas Cooper, a

“We really have some high expectations for this year’s recruits. We probably signed the best class of the four we have signed as a staff.”

-Blaine Bennett
Head football coach



NATE WALLACE/OBSERVER

WHITE CHIPS (Top) Ryan Robertson (yellow jersey), quarterback, junior get flushed out of the pocket by the defense.

5-foot-10-inch, 195-pound running back from Mukilteo and Jeremiah Laufasa, a 5-foot-11-inch, 190-pound running back from Kirkland.

“Our whole concept is to target bigger and better,” said defensive coordinator Joe Lorig. “We think they are Division I guys that slipped through the cracks for whatever reason.”

Wrapping up Central’s white chip recruits is Mitch Haldane, a 5-foot-11-inch, 190-pound linebacker out of Mountlake Terrace and Jackson Wargo, a 6-foot-3-inch, 285-pound offensive lineman out of Montesano.

The majority of the athletes recruited

will be red-shirted, meaning the athlete does not play the first year in order to lengthen their time of eligibility and allow them to get accustomed to how the program works.

“It allows them to get bigger and stronger with a year of school under their belt without worrying about competition,” Picha said. “If there is a real desire not to red shirt, we will work with that.”

Central’s coaching staff will continue to fill position needs in the next months. They are traveling to California later this month to continue their recruiting at junior colleges and then onto player transfers.

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